

The Nicaea & Creation Course

Worship

If you are looking for practical ways to live out your worship of God, to express your worship by taking action on behalf of Creation, we warmly commend the resources developed by the Diocese in Europe's Caring 4 Creation group, [available here.](#)





Worship

One God

We meet in the name of God whose speech began the story of life
whose words brought form into being
and who ordered creation in harmony and goodness.

We meet in the purpose of Jesus whose life was the speech of God
whose words show the shape of his Kingdom
and who draws those who hear into its unfolding story.

We meet in the power of the Spirit
whose breath tamed the primordial chaos
whose tongue shapes the words of change
and who energises the ones who give them voice.

We meet in the name of the Triune God
the Source, the Sharer, and the Shaper,
Who was, and is, and will be as long
as the Story of Love is told.

COLLECT FOR CREATIONTIDE

Glorious God, the whole of creation proclaims your marvellous work: increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it, that heaven's praise may echo in our hearts and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



HYMN TO THE TRINITY

by Bishop Geoffrey Rowell

To the tune of Abbot's Leigh, Blaenwern, Hyfrydol, Ode to Joy, or Lux Eoi

A recording by the Choir of Holy Trinity Geneva is available on the diocesan website

Light of light, Love's radiant Glory,
Blessed Trinity adored!
Well of life, our shaping story,
Source of beauty, life outpoured!
As in heav'n the angels worship,
'Holy, Holy, Holy!' sing,
Let us now their praises echo,
And our lives in homage bring.

God the Father, first Beginning,
Fountainhead of life and grace,
Love eternal, all-creating,
Energising time and space,
Seen in all creation's beauty,
Fragile flowers and stars above,
Particles whose hidden mystr'y
Praise your all-creative love.

God the Son by Love begotten,
Loved from all eternity,
Life outpoured for our salvation,
Through whom all was brought to be,
Perfect image of the Father,
God from God, and Light from Light,
Healing through our human weakness,
For sin's blindness giving sight.

Holy and life-giving Spirit,
Bond of love, God's living Breath,
Presence which the Church inherits,
Raising us to life from death;
Drawing us to deep communion,
Kindling in our hearts desire -
Longing prayer for perfect union,
Tears of joy and tongues of fire!

Triune God we bring our praises,
Low in adoration fall,
Awesome Wonder that amazes
As our hearts now hear your call,
'Share in me the life of glory,
Lives transfigured by my Love!'
Saints on earth and saints in heaven,
In the Trinity above.

DISMISSAL

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.
Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

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Worship Jesus Christ

KYRIE

Turn us, O God, from our desire to turn in upon ourselves,
refuse to hear the voices of our fellow creatures.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Call us again, open our ears.

Gather us into relationships of mutual care and listening.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Enlighten us by your Spirit that renews the face of your Earth.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed: forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN

Source and Fount of All Creation

By Peter Baelz, former Dean of Durham Cathedral

Source and Fount of All Creation | *St. James Music Press*

Pour thy Spirit from above
On the bearers of thine image,
Offspring of a human love.
Human hopes and human graces
Break beneath the weight of sin;
Fear and envy wrench asunder
World without and self within.

Human love is unavailing
Counter-weight to sin and strife;
Love of God alone can hold us
On the way that leads to life.
Praised be God, whose Son our Saviour
Human nature has restored,
Living, dying, raised in glory,
to the likeness of its Lord.

Trace, O Christ, salvation's pattern,
God and sinner reconciled,
In an all-embracing story:
New creation, new-born child.
Word incarnate, world's Redeemer,
Here in us thy work repeat,
Signed and sealed thine own for ever,
Till the pattern stands complete.

Christ our universal Saviour,
Nature's poet, nature's priest,
Through life's troubled waters bring us
to the eucharistic feast,
Where rejoicing saint and sinner
Praise the Lord of time and space,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Fount of being, source of grace.



A CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



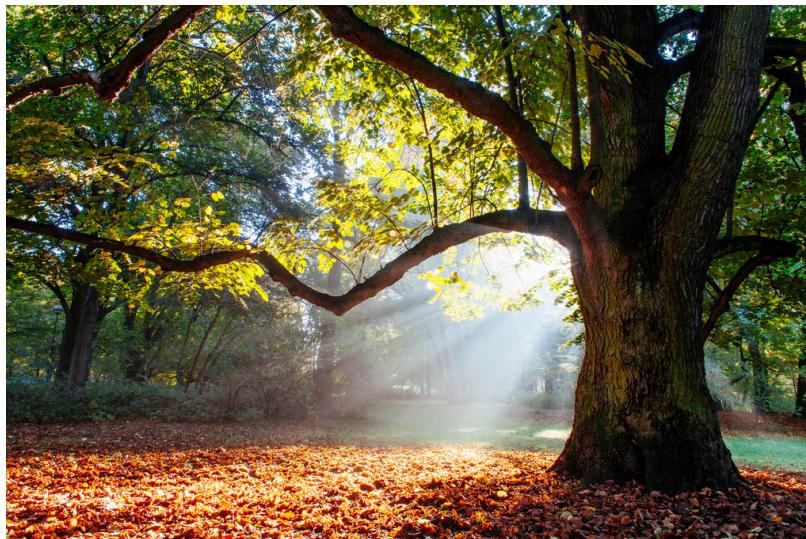
Worship Holy Spirit

POEM

Gerard Manley Hopkins

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil
Crushed. Why do men then now not reck his rod?
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs —
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.





PSALM 139

Consider punctuating the Psalm with deep breaths, in and out, at each diamond ♦ grounding yourselves individually and as a group in this moment of worship.

Refrain: Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦

Or: **Where can I flee from your presence?**

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 For there is not a word on my tongue,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4 You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦

Or where can I flee from your presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

8 If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

9 Even there your hand shall lead me,
your right hand hold me fast.

10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me
and the light around me turn to night,'

11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦

Or where can I flee from your presence?

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.



**14 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.**

**15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished;
already in your book were all my members written,**

**16 As day by day they were fashioned
when as yet there was none of them.**

**Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦
Or where can I flee from your presence?**

**17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!**

**18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand,
and at the end, I am still in your presence.**

**19 O that you would slay the wicked, O God,
that the bloodthirsty might depart from me!**

**20 They speak against you with wicked intent;
your enemies take up your name for evil.**

**21 Do I not oppose those, O Lord, who oppose you?
Do I not abhor those who rise up against you?**

**22 I hate them with a perfect hatred;
they have become my own enemies also.**

**23 Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
try me and examine my thoughts.**

**24 See if there is any way of wickedness in me
and lead me in the way everlasting.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit ♦
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Where can I go then from your spirit? ♦
Or where can I flee from your presence?**



HYMN

She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters,
hovering on the chaos of the world's first day;
she sighs and she sings, mothering creation,
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.

She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,
lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;
she nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,
nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.

She dances in fire, startling her spectators,
waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;
she weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,
nor can she be captured, silenced or restrained.

For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,
gifted by the Saviour in eternal love;
and she is the key opening the scriptures,
enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.

John L. Bell & Graham Maule, 'Enemy of Apathy', in The Iona Abbey Worship Book (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2003), 193. (The hymn also appears in Church Hymnary 4, #593, and in some other places too)

CLOSING PRAYER

A candle may be lit...

Spirit of God, You established the dance of Creation; bring life out of death bring order out of chaos. Call us to radical action: to care for the web of Creation, to share our resources justly and to work for the renewal of our Mother Earth. We light this candle as we commit ourselves to fast and pray for climate justice. Amen.



Most Revd Dr Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of Cape Town

You may wish to end this session in silence.

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Worship

The Resurrection and the Life

ACCLAMATION

Jesus Christ is Lord:
Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.

HYMN

Maker of mystery, dreamer of what will be

Words: © Marnie Barrell, 1996; Tune: Down Ampney; Meter: 66 11 D

Maker of mystery,
dreamer of what will be,
wellspring and fertile ground of all our growing:
tending the buried seed,
foreseeing every need,
you draw us into life beyond our knowing.

Christ, strong and living vine
spreading through space and time,
deep-rooted in the love of God our Mother:
dying, you live and share
your strength with us, to bear
ripe fruit in season for the life of others.

Wild Spirit, springing green,
coiled in the depths unseen,
promise of seed within the fruit maturing:
new life, you grow and swell,
burst from the outgrown shell,
hundredfold yield in every age ensuring.

Living and loving God,
sing in the pulse of our blood;
help us to know you in your own creation,
love you, the life of all,
serve you and hear your call
from our first forming to our full salvation.



ACT OF COMMITMENT

As the whole of creation looks with eager longing for the redemption of humankind, let us pledge ourselves anew to serve our Creator God, the Father who is the maker of all things, the Son through whom all things are made, and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who renews the face of the earth.

Let us affirm our commitment to care actively for God's creation:

Lord of life and giver of hope, we pledge ourselves to care for creation, to reduce our waste, to live sustainably, and to value the rich diversity of life. May your wisdom guide us, that life in all its forms may flourish, and may be faithful in voicing creation's praise. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

"Behold, I am making all things new."

Revelation 21:5

A silence is kept for reflection.

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

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